We Are EMS Workers United AFSCME



Recognition for Our Profession

Across the country, Emergency Medical Services professionals provide life-saving acute care, disaster relief, and safe transport, yet we seldom have a real voice in our profession. With no federal EMS standards or guaranteed voice on the job, regulations and quality standards vary from locality to locality, and employers often make decisions arbitrarily.



We have to be a strong advocate for our profession. We know what's needed to move EMS forward:

A Real Voice on the Job

All EMS workers need a seat at the table with their employer. By standing together as a union, we are able to negotiate our wages, benefits, and working conditions in a legally binding collective bargaining agreement. We have agreements nationwide that improve the lives of EMS workers.



"We get access to the best training available and updated equipment on a regular basis because we are a strong union."

— Jean Marc Beaubrun, EMT at the FDNY, New York, AFSCME Local 2507

A Federal Lead Agency

Federal oversight of EMS would set standards for the industry and respond to our needs as professionals. AFSCME is part of an EMS labor alliance advocating for a federal EMS agency similar to the agencies overseeing police and fire.

"We're fighting to get a federal standard for EMS curriculum and licensure so we'll have **freedom to move** and work where we're needed."

 Phil Jones, EMT at Rural/Metro IFT, California, AFSCME Local 4911





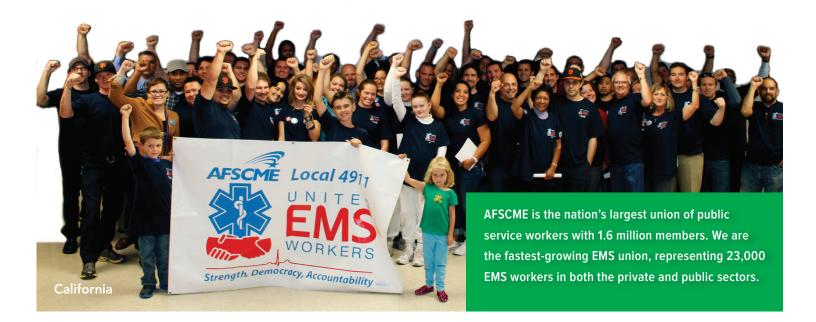
A Coalition for EMS

We build coalitions in our communities to make EMS a top priority. Local, state and county level decisions affect our working conditions – and that's why we work with our neighbors to educate and hold elected officials accountable.

"United with our community, we have the resources to fight and win for EMS."

— Marty Nungesser, EMT at the City of O'Fallon, Illinois, AFSCME Local 2817





Across the Country, We Are Winning

Standing with our coworkers in a strong union gives us protection and a voice we would not have standing alone. From New York to California, in the private and public sectors, our solidarity makes the difference. We have raised the standards for our profession, held EMS companies accountable, and improved our lives and the services we provide.



Better Wages & Benefits

We deserve respect for the care we provide to our communities. Standing united means winning wages and benefits to support our families. As EMS Workers United-AFSCME, we are paid a higher salary on average than non-union EMS workers. We also fight to ensure that employers offer affordable health insurance so we have access to the same quality care that we provide our patients.

"As a union we improved our wages and benefits. Now we keep up with other departments in our division."

— Scott Greer, Paramedic at Lakes Regional Health Care, Iowa, AFSCME Local 1639







Job Security

We work to keep good EMS jobs in our communities, even when the name on the ambulance changes. We negotiate contracts that protect our jobs, and we fight to make sure our communities aren't left behind.



"After we voted for AFSCME, 50 of us showed up at operations, met with management, and spoke with one voice. **Twenty-four workers were put back to work.**"

— Samantha Tennison, Paramedic at Rural/Metro, California, AFSCME Local 4911

Adequate Safety Equipment & Training

We take action to make sure safety comes before profit. EMS workers in New York City made improvements that were extended to private sector providers, including requirements for driver training, hazmat awareness, bunker gear and crisis intervention. We fight to get the tools we need to save lives.

"I'm with AFSCME so I can better serve and care for the people in the community I grew up in."

— Erica Rica Parraz, EMT at Taos County EMS, New Mexico, AFSCME Local 1193



We Can Do More Together



"Together we can make EMS more accepted within the health care community."

— Jim Slattery, EMT at American Medical Response, Massachusetts, AFSCME Local 4911



"It's about our families having the confidence that our jobs will be secure."

— Amanda Gordon, Paramedic at MetroHealth Hospital, Ohio, AFSCME Local 3360



"We provide health care for our communities. Let's make sure all EMS workers have health care too."

> — Paul Pfahler, Paramedic at AMED, Pennsylvania, AFSCME Local 3157



"No matter where we work, there should be clear workplace safety protocols in place that protects workers and patients."

> — Derrick Gloege, EMT at New River Medical Center, Minnesota, AFSCME Local 1898



"We can protect families by limiting excessive hours on the job and having trained professionals available for grief counseling when needed."

— John Bollhardt, EMT at American Medical Response, New Hampshire, AFSCME Local 4911





Stand with us today.

Across the country, we are using our voice to improve EMS for our communities. We can do even more with your help.

Call (212) 815-1095 today for more information.

We're united to have a voice in the work we do.

Together, we can make EMS a top priority in our communities.

Join Us Today!

